IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A hydrophilic, water-wettable, semi-permeable hollow-fibre membrane for blood purification comprising a synthetic first polymer, the hollow-fibre membrane possessing an open-pored integrally asymmetric structure across its wall, a porous separating layer of thickness between 0.1 and 2 µm on its inner surface facing ~~the~~ a lumen, and an open-pored supporting layer adjoining the separating layer, and having an ultrafiltration rate in albumin solution in the range of 5 to 23.5 ml/(h·m^2·mmHg), characterized in that the hollow-fibre membrane, in the absence of additives stabilizing the pores in the membrane wall and after prior drying, has a maximum sieving coefficient for albumin of 0.005 combined with a sieving coefficient for cytochrome c that satisfies the relation

$$SCcc \geq 5 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot UFR_{Alb}^3 - 0.004 \cdot UFR_{Alb}^2 + 0.1081 \cdot UFR_{Alb} - 0.25$$

2. (original) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1, characterized in that it has a sieving coefficient for cytochrome c that satisfies the relation

$$SCcc \geq 5 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot UFR_{Alb}^3 - 0.004 \cdot UFR_{Alb}^2 + 0.1081 \cdot UFR_{Alb} - 0.12$$

3. (previously presented) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1, characterized in that it also comprises a hydrophilic second polymer.

4. (previously presented) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1, characterized in that the synthetic first polymer is a hydrophobic first polymer and the hollow-fibre membrane also comprises a hydrophilic second polymer.

5. (original) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 4, characterized in that the hydrophobic first polymer is an aromatic sulfone polymer such as polysulfone, polyethersulfone, polyphenylenesulfone or polyarylethersulfone, a polycarbonate, polyimide, polyetherimide, polyetherketone, polyphenylene sulfide or a copolymer or mixture of these polymers.

6. (original) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 5, characterized in that the hydrophobic first polymer is a polysulfone or a polyethersulfone.

7. (previously presented) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 3, characterized in that the hydrophilic second polymer is polyvinylpyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, polyglycol monoester, polysorbate, carboxymethylcellulose, or a copolymer of these polymers.

8. (currently amended) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1, characterized in that the supporting layer ~~extends from the separating layer across essentially the entire wall~~

~~of the hollow-fibre membrane and~~ has a sponge-like structure that is free from finger pores.

9. (previously presented) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1, characterized in that it has a maximum sieving coefficient for albumin of 0.003.

10. (previously presented) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1, characterized in that a polyelectrolyte with negative fixed charges is physically bound in the separating layer.

11. (previously presented) Hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1 with an ultrafiltration rate in albumin solution in the range of 10 to 25 ml/(h·m^2·mmHg).

12. (currently amended) Method for producing a hydrophilic, water-wettable, semipermeable hollow-fibre membrane, comprising the following steps:

a. preparing a homogeneous spinning solution comprising 12 to 30 wt.% of a synthetic first polymer and, if necessary, other additives in a solvent system,

b. extruding the spinning solution through the annular slit of a hollow-fibre die to give a hollow fibre,

c. extruding an interior filler through the central opening of the hollow-fibre die, the interior filler

being a coagulation medium for the synthetic first polymer and comprising a solvent and a non-solvent for the synthetic first polymer,

d. bringing the interior filler into contact with the inner surface of the hollow fibre to initiate coagulation in the interior of the hollow fibre and for formation of a separating layer on the inner surface of the hollow fibre and formation of the membrane structure,

e. passing the hollow fibre through a coagulation bath to complete the formation of the membrane structure if necessary and to fix the membrane structure,

f. extracting the hollow-fibre membrane thus formed, to remove the solvent system and soluble substances, and

g. drying the hollow-fibre membrane,

characterized in that the interior filler contains a polyelectrolyte with negative fixed charges, wherein the steps of the method are to be carried out in such a way that a hollow-fibre membrane according to Claim 1 is obtained with an ultrafiltration rate in albumin solution in the range of 5 to 23.5 ml/($h \cdot m^2 \cdot mmHg$) and a maximum sieving coefficient for albumin of 0.005 combined with a sieving coefficient for cytochrome c that satisfies the following relation:

$$SCcc \geq 5 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot UFR_{Alb}^3 - 0.004 \cdot UFR_{Alb}^2 + 0.1081 \cdot UFR_{Alb} - 0.25$$

13. (original) Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the spinning solution also comprises 0.1 to 30 wt.% of a hydrophilic second polymer.

14. (original) Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the synthetic first polymer is a hydrophobic first polymer and the spinning solution also comprises 0.1 to 30 wt.% of a hydrophilic second polymer.

15. (original) Method according to Claim 14, characterized in that an aromatic sulfone polymer such as polysulfone, polyethersulfone, polyphenylenesulfone or polyarylethersulfone, a polycarbonate, polyimide, polyetherimide, polyetherketone, polyphenylene sulfide, or a copolymer or mixture of these polymers is used as the hydrophobic first polymer.

16. (previously presented) Method according to Claim 13, characterized in that polyvinyl-pyrrolidone, polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol, polyglycol monoester, polysorbate, carboxymethylcellulose, or a copolymer of these polymers is used as the hydrophilic second polymer.

17. (previously presented) Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the solvent system comprises a polar aprotic solvent.

18. (previously presented) Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the polyelectrolyte is selected from the group of polyphosphoric acids, polysulfonic acids, or polycarboxylic acids.

19. (original) Method according to Claim 18, characterized in that the polycarboxylic acids are homo- or copolymers of acrylic acid.

20. (previously presented) Method according to Claim 12, characterized in that the proportion by weight of the polyelectrolyte is 0.01 to 1 wt.% relative to the weight of the interior filler.